

Department of Defense

- \$7.9 billion / year – Each year Congress funds thousands of projects that are not requested by the military, go to politically favored groups, and undergo no scrutiny from Congress or the Pentagon. These projects are not competitively bid and produce almost no value for our troops. Last year (FY2009) there were over 2,000 defense earmarks totaling almost \$8 billion.¹
- \$30 billion / year – The Government Accountability Office identified \$30 billion in average annual cost overruns from major defense acquisition programs from 2003-2007.²
- \$1.5 billion / year – The Department of Defense Inspector General auditors identified over \$1 billion in fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement of taxpayer dollars in FY2008.^{3 4}
- \$3.3 billion / year – the Defense Contract Audit Agency, despite not complying with generally accepted auditing standards, found over \$3 billion in net savings due to audits of defense contractors. With effective leadership and compliance with audit standards, it could identify billions more.⁵
- \$1 billion / year – The Government Accountability Office identified massive waste and inefficiency at the Department of Defense because new, unused, and excellent condition items were transferred outside of DOD, sold for pennies on the dollar, or destroyed. Despite the destruction of these excess items, DOD continued to purchase them for military use.⁶
- \$450 million / year in savings – According to the Government Accountability Office, the Department of Defense will realize almost a half a billion dollars in when they stopped paying contractors award fees for unacceptable work and stopped the inappropriate use of rollover award fees.⁷
- \$305 million – The Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction (SIGIR) has saved, recovered, or redirected \$305 million as a result of 29 criminal indictments and hundreds of audits, inspections, and investigations.⁸
- \$2.5 billion / year – The Senate passed Department of Defense appropriations act spends \$2.5 billion for the purchase of 10 C-17 cargo planes that the military has repeatedly said it does not need. The funds for these planes will come out of the operations and maintenance accounts of the Army and Marine Corps, which pays for our military's training, fuel, food, health care, and maintenance on their rifles, tanks, and trucks. The 2.5 billion represents the purchase price and does not include the cost the Department of Defense will incur to operate and maintain these extra planes.⁹

- \$20 million / year – The Senate passed Department of Defense appropriations act includes \$20 million earmark for the Edward Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate in Massachusetts.¹⁰

Department of State

- \$610 million – The United States donates billions of taxpayer dollars per year to the United Nations. The United Nations Procurement Task Force determined that at least \$610 million of procurement activities were tainted by significant fraud and detection schemes.¹¹
- \$13 billion - More than \$13 billion in U.S. aid meant for Iraq reconstruction aid has been classified as wasted, stolen, or lost by investigators in Iraq. In one example, Iraqi Defense Ministry officials created two fake companies to buy planes, tanks, rifles and other equipment with \$1.7 billion in U.S. funds. The companies delivered a tiny fraction of the equipment that had been ordered despite being fully paid.¹²
- \$16 million / year – The U.S. taxpayer paid \$16 million in FY2009 to The Asia Foundation, a non-profit organization founded in the 60s to strengthen civil society in Asia. Among the programs that the Asia Foundation funds: exchanges where Americans live and work in Asia and a Congressional Fellowship Program.^{13 14}
- \$21 million / year - The U.S. taxpayer funds \$21 million to the East-West Center (EWC) in Hawaii. It is a non-profit education and research organization founded in 1960 that seeks to strengthen U.S.-Asia Pacific understanding and relations. It brings Americans and individuals from the Asia Pacific region to the Center for policy-oriented study, training, and research. In 2008 the US Government provided over 70 percent of the EWC's funding. This reduction would support the President's proposals on budget savings.¹⁵
- \$5 million / year - Provided for continued support of the Colombian National Park Service and nongovernmental organizations working in buffer zones to protect Colombia's national parks and indigenous reserves.¹⁶
- \$20 million / year – U.S. taxpayers fund \$20 million a year for tropical forest and coral conservation funding. This act forgives debts owed the United States by developing countries in exchange for the preservation of significant tropical forests and coral reefs in other countries.¹⁷

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- ¹ Joint Explanatory Statement to Accompany Public Law 110-329, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009. Pp. 457 – 570.
- ² GAO Report: 08-467SP, “Defense Acquisitions: Assessments of Selected Weapons Programs,” Government Accountability Office, March, 2008, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08467sp.pdf>.
- ³ DOD IG Report: 062308, “Inspector General United States Department of Defense: Semiannual Report to the Congress,” Department of Defense Inspector General, March 2008.
- ⁴ DOD IG Report: 121708, “Inspector General United States Department of Defense: Semiannual Report to the Congress,” Department of Defense Inspector General, September 2008.
- ⁵ Defense Contract Audit Agency website “Products and Services,” <http://www.dcaa.mil/products.htm>.
- ⁶ GAO Report: 05-277, “DOD Excess Property: Management Control Breakdowns Result in Substantial Waste and Inefficiency,” May, 2005, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05277.pdf>.
- ⁷ GAO Report: 09-630, “Federal Contracting: Guidance on Award Fees Has Led to Better Practices but is Not Consistently Applied,” May, 2009, <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09630.pdf>.
- ⁸ Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction website, “SIGIR Accomplishments,” August, 2009, <http://www.sigir.mil/about/pdf/SIGIRaccomplishments.pdf>.
- ⁹ Senate Report 111-74 to H.R. 3326, Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010.
- ¹⁰ Bender, Bryan, “Kerry Asks \$20m for Kennedy Institute,” *The Boston Globe*, September 25, 2009, www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2009/09/25/watchdog_groups_rap_20m_earmark_for_kennedy_institute.
- ¹¹ “Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the activities of the Procurement Task Force for the 18-month period ended 30 June 2007,” U.N. Office of Internal Oversight Services, October 5, 2007.
- ¹² Hedgpeth, Dana, “\$13 Billion in Iraq Aid Wasted or Stolen, Ex-Investigator Says,” *The Washington Post*, September 23, 2008, at www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/09/22/AR2008092202053.html.
- ¹³ Senate Report 111-44 to S. 1434, Department of State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, 2010, p. 25.
- ¹⁴ The Asia Foundation website “About the Asia Foundation,” <http://asiafoundation.org/about/>.
- ¹⁵ Office of Management and Budget, “Presidential Terminations, Reductions, and Savings, Budget of the U.S. Government, Fiscal Year 2010” <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2010/assets/trs.pdf>.
- ¹⁶ Joint Explanatory Statement to Accompany Public Law 110-161, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2009. p. 2176.
- ¹⁷ Senate Report 111-44 to S. 1434, Department of State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, 2010, p. 41.